



PREVIOUS JOHN STUDDY RECIPIENTS

1999 INAUGURAL WINNER – YVONNE SMITH, VICTORIA

Yvonne, a person with MS, and her husband Allan started an MS auxiliary in 1956. Since then, she has managed to raise more than \$250,000.

The Smith's are responsible for the establishment of the MS Society of Victoria, where Yvonne has been a member of the board.

2000 - MRS THONAD AM, SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Mrs Thonard AM (then Scantelbury) with her first husband Richard, who had MS, formed a group that was to ultimately become the Multiple Sclerosis Society of South Australia in 1962.

Throughout the following years she was instrumental in the establishment of the Medical Advisory Board to the Society, then a Welfare Committee - to provide MS Clients with assistance.

A Ladies Auxiliary was also formed to raise funds and her home was the first office of the Society. She continued as Honorary Secretary of the MS Society for the next 29 years.

In January 1999 she was awarded the honour of a Member of the Order of Australia in recognition of her work for the community, in particular for persons with MS.

2001 - MRS ELIZABETH ANN ZANNA BARRON, SYDNEY

Zanna has been president of the NSW Council of people with MS and has served on the Board of the New South Wales MS Society.

She was also the founding editor of the first quarterly newsletter published for people with MS, MagScene. She has served the community with great enthusiasm and professionalism and always in a voluntary capacity.

2002 - ANN LANGLEY, BRISBANE

At the time of the award, Ann was serving on the board of the Qld MS Society and is currently serving on the Board of MS Australia. She was previously President of PwMS and formerly Chairman of PwMS Qld, where for many years she produced the PwMS monthly magazine, Forum.

Ann was the founding editor of MS Life. Ann is a volunteer worker with many organisations dealing with disability and housing issues and works tirelessly to improve living conditions for all those with MS and other disabilities.

2003 - JIM CONWAY, SYDNEY

Jim was elected to the Board of Multiple Sclerosis of NSW in 1991, serving with enormous distinction and has a formidable record as a fundraiser. He was diagnosed with MS at 31.

He has always been a champion of the ordinary person with MS, thus ensuring that Board decisions were always linked to the reality of coping with MS.

Jim is acknowledged as a highly accomplished harmonica player which has taken him around the world.

2004 - GRAHAM TRIBE, NEW SOUTH WALES

Graham is the current President of MS Australia and has served for many years as both President on the Board of the New South Wales MS Society and more recently as an MSL Board Member.

2005 - MICHAEL STEWART. OAM, ADELAIDE

Mr Stewart OAM was actively involved in an honorary capacity with the Multiple Sclerosis Society of South Australia and Northern Territory for 30 years commencing in 1974.

Throughout his involvement with the Society, Mr Stewart was the forefront with his leadership and innovation to develop the society.

From humble beginnings in 1964 the society today has an annual budget of \$5,000,000, employs 85 staff and is highly regarded within the health care environment in SA and NT.

2006 - DAVID CONRY, QUEENSLAND

David Conry, is the Director and Chairman of Youngcare.

Youngcare was formed as a result of sadness, anger and disgust at what was lacking for young people needing high level care. The drive of Youngcare and many other lobby groups has been challenging yet with tremendous results.

David brings to Youngcare and MS a deep understanding of the cause through his personal experience.

Beyond this David has a strong business and marketing background and has engaged support from the Nation Media and the Entertainment Industry.

2007 – DR LESLIE SEDAL, M.B, B.S., FRACP, M Ed

Dr Sedal is a consultant neurologist, specialist in MS, who has devoted his professional life first to the care of his patients.

He also spends a great deal of time to educating medical students, health professional and colleges and undertaking clinical MS research. Dr Sedal graduated in Medicine from Melbourne University in 1967 and trained in Neurology at the National Hospital London.

He presents at key MS meetings and writes papers and book chapters on MS. Dr Sedal promotes the MS organisation at every opportunity and is always willing to provide advice and assistance to staff.

He is highly regarded nationally and internationally for his work in advancing the knowledge of MS.

2008 Zona Tripp, OAM

Zona Tripp established the Dr Jeffrey Tripp Committee in 1977 to raise funds for the MS Society as a token of gratitude for the amazing support given by the organisation to Zona and her husband, the late Dr Jeffrey Tripp after his diagnosis of MS.

In 1988, Zona was instrumental in providing funding for the establishment of the hydrotherapy pool at the MS Studdy Centre Lidcombe, named in honour of her late husband.

Zona's current fundraising focus is on providing appropriate accommodation for young people with MS who would otherwise reside in aged care nursing homes.

As the recipient of this years award, in this her 80th year, Zona celebrates 30 years of outstanding and tireless fundraising efforts for people with MS.

2009 Carol Cooke

In 1999/2000 Carol began looking at ways in which she could help others who were living with the challenges of MS and, along with a member of MS Victoria staff, created the concept of the 24 Hour Mega Swim.

Carol's concept for the 24 Hour Mega Swim was to use a volunteer base to reduce costs by engaging with local councils, businesses, Rotary Clubs and the like to have pool fees waived, prizes donated and food stations manned around the clock.

Over the 8 years that the 24 Hour Mega Swim has run, over \$1.4 million has been raised with all funds being made available to PwMS through either "Go for Gold" Scholarships or through financial assistance programs.

In each participating State, twenty Go for Gold Scholarships, worth \$3,000 each, are awarded annually with two scholarships awarded for \$5,000. The scholarships are open to anyone with MS who has a "dream" they would like to follow in the areas of education, travel, employment, the arts, sport or "maximising your strength" exercise courses. Over 200 scholarships have been awarded through the program so far, all fully funded by Mega Swim.

Up until June 2008, the 24 Hour Mega Swim had been restricted to Victoria and SA due to the demands on Carol's time. In June 2008 the 24 Hour Mega Swim was extended to NSW and in April 2009 extended to the ACT through support from the MSL Events Team. The inaugural NSW swim was held at the Sydney Olympic Pool, Homebush, and raised over \$70,000 while the inaugural ACT swim was held at the AIS Pool and raised \$50,000.

Carol is also an MS Ambassador who spends as much time as possible promoting MS Australia's work and speaking about MS and her journey.

2009 David Barnes

David was first appointed to the Board of The MS Society of Western Australia in 1994. His successful track record in commerce led to an early appointment as Chair of Fundraising. Under David's stewardship, the WA Society expanded its revenue base significantly resulting in an increase in member (client) services.

David's contribution has ranged from medium sized fundraising initiatives to major commercial projects. In 1996 David was appointed as Vice President of The MS Society of Western Australia and asked to take the President's role in 2000, the position he currently holds.

In addition to his direct contribution to assist people with MS, David sat on the (WA Government) Disability Services Commission's Strategic Planning Committee. As recognition of this and other work conducted for people with Multiple Sclerosis, David received an award from the WA Minister for Disabilities in 2007.

Under David's term as President, The MS Society of Western Australia has grown from strength to strength.

2010 Simon McKeon

Mr Simon McKeon, Executive Chairman of Macquarie Bank's Melbourne office has been a shining light in the philanthropic world for many years and has been awarded the 2010 John Studdy Award.

The award recognises his key role in the establishment of MSRA in 2004, and his ongoing leadership role. Mr McKeon, who was diagnosed with MS 10 years ago, is also a past Chairman of the MS Australia Board and has also served on the Board of MS Society of Victoria between October 2001 and December 2004.

McKeon has made an extraordinary contribution to People with MS in Australia and as the foundation chairman of MSRA from January 2004 to August 2010, Simon has guided and inspired its development to become Australia's peak body for MS Research and as one of the MS Australia's most successful initiatives.

Mr McKeon's many other humanitarian and philanthropic activities include being a Director of World Vision for 15 years, a director of the Global Poverty Project and working directly with heroin addicts and remote indigenous communities.